

is a mystery to me how people can be so blinded to the hundreds of cases in every community where tottering homes have fallen and innocent lives have been wrecked, because some young girl has persisted in marrying a scoundrel in the hope of saving him. I have never known such a union—and I have seen hundreds of them—result in anything but sadness and disaster. Let no young girl think that she may be able to accomplish what a loving mother or sympathetic sisters have been unable to do. Before there is any contract of marriage there should be convincing proof that there has been real and thorough regeneration."

NATIONAL CONFERENCE NOTES.

Have you decided to go to National Conference? We hope you have, and if so, be sure to send your name and address to J. E. Parsons, Johnstown, Pa., corner Main and Franklin streets. This is important. The people will be lodged free and to do this and do it systematically and to your comfort, the committee should have some idea as to the number they are expected to lodge so as to make arrangements accordingly.

Do not overlook the above item. Perhaps you say you have friends and will not trouble the committee. You expect to lodge with friends or relatives. This is perfectly proper, but makes it all the more important that you should notify the committee. Whether you have brothers, sisters, father or mother living in Johnstown, notify the committee that you are coming and *where* you expect to lodge. If you expect to spend a night in Johnstown during the Conference be sure to notify the committee.

Work on the tabernacle has begun. It will be located in a beautiful shaded spot with all the advantage of the cool, life-giving, refreshing and invigorating mountain breezes. Bro. Parsons informs us that the place is proof against the severest summer heat and the only way it can be affected by heat is when preachers themselves get "hot" as they do sometimes at such places. The tabernacle will seat from 1500 to 2000 people.

The reception committee will meet people at the depot, escort them to the church, where they will register and be assigned their lodging quarters.

It is expected that every person takes his three meals per day on the grounds. Meals cannot be secured any cheaper in the city and it would not be fair to the caterer in charge (who is at large expense) to have people go elsewhere for their meals.

Three G's do not always stand for the best things to eat, but in this case they mean, "Good Grub Guaranteed."

The hours for meals have been determined and the liberty given can not but suit everybody. Here they are:

Breakfast, 6 A. M. to 9 A. M.

Dinner, 11 A. M. to 2 P. M.

Supper, 5 P. M. to 7:30 P. M.

Bro. J. M. Bowman, Harrisonburg, Va., will be in charge of the music.

Keep on file the papers containing these notes week after week. You may want them for reference. Is there anything that is not yet clear? If you can not wait for its publication write to Bro. Parsons. He knows everything—about the Conference.

Do not forget to send your name to Brother Yoder, of Warsaw, if you wish to be one of the fifty to get half rates to Pittsburg and return. This is an important item and should not be overlooked. We hope to see the Illiokota Conference come in a body by way of Warsaw.

TWO NEW DEPARTMENTS.

In last week's issue we introduced two new departments to our readers, "The Mission Field" and "Our Bible School." The former is to be devoted entirely to the cause of missions, the discussion of the missionary problem, report missionary news from all fields and in a general way quicken the church along the line of missionary work. This is a subject on which our people need special instruction and a page or more devoted each week to the cause will we think be helpful. The department, "Our Bible School," is open for the discussion of all Bible questions, the exposition of difficult passages of Scripture, methods of Bible study, in fact everything that will stimulate an earnest study of the Word. We need to have deeper conceptions of God's truth. We do not yet understand the Word in its fullness; we are yet far from having learned what it is possible for us to learn of the divine truth as revealed in holy scriptures. We need to study the Bible more systematically, more regularly, more earnestly, more prayerfully. Too many of us have been content with a mere intellectual knowledge of the Word, not being able to discern the deeper, spiritual truth, the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price, the real kernel of the truth hidden away beneath the mere external forms of language. Brother Gillen will furnish weekly prayer meeting topics with Bible

outlines and talks upon the same for the department. We hope to be able to make this one of the most interesting as well as profitable departments of the paper. If you have in mind some passage of scripture which in your judgment has been greatly misunderstood and misapplied, we shall be glad to have your exegesis and application of such scripture, but please remember that contributions to this department *must be short*. Contributions to this and to the "Mission Field" department are solicited, but do not forget our motto, "brief and to the point."

PREACHING AND INSPIRATION.

Of the kind of preaching needed to day, Dr. Parker of London, says:

"I believe that preaching should be an art of inspiration. I am not speaking of verbal exegesis. For verbal criticism arduous study will always be necessary. Nor am I making any plea for mental indolence. If any man shall say that he will take no thought what he will preach, but will stand up and let the Holy Spirit speak through him, the probability is that the man will not be accepted as the instrument through whom Heaven will speak. The preaching that I now indicate is not the result of indolence or unconcern. The preparation will only be altered; it will not be lessened. The man who is going to preach under the influence of divine inspiration must live every day with God, must lift up his thoughts to the very highest level, must banish everything from his environment that would vitiate his taste, narrow his sympathies, or create even an almost unconscious selfishness. He must be sanctified—that is, set apart for a special work, and must so live that God will accept him as a fit instrument for his use in revealing the divine truth."

A GREAT POWER FOR GOOD.

One of the most hopeful signs of the times is the young people's movement. There are thousands, yea, let us say millions of young people who are to-day consecrating themselves to the work of the Lord. The immense Christian Endeavor Convention which lately met in San Francisco, California, represents a membership of not less than 3,000,000. Last week the Epworth League Convention met at Toronto, to which many thousands of people have been looking forward with great interest. This society represents a membership of perhaps 2,000,000, while the Baptist Union which held a convention at Chattanooga, Tenn., last week represents a membership of not less than 2,000,000.